

# SLAVERY IN THE PHILIPPINES



VICTIMS OF SLAVE HUNTERS



A FILIPINO FAMILY

UNTL Dean C. Worcester's recent report few Americans had suspected that at this late day commerce in human beings still flourishes within the shadow of Old Glory.

Such is the fact, unless Professor Worcester and a considerable army of American officials in the Philippines have been "seeing things."

And it may be added that even since Professor Worcester's retirement the war department has received from another American official, W. H. Phipps, auditor of the Philippines, a similar report, giving further details of these atrocities. This report I now have before me in manuscript form. From the several hundred pages contained in these two documents I will glean the gist of the conditions described and give it to you in compact form, writes John Elfrith Watkins in the Philadelphia Record.

The armed slave hunters of the Philippines are found to have been preying upon the Negritos, Ilogos, Tingulans, Igorotes, Manobos, Mandayas, Moros, Taganuas, Filipinos and peoples of other tribes. To obtain these unfortunates they have often killed their parents or other natural defenders and have sold the captives to persons who hold them as chat-



COUNTRY ROAD IN THE PHILIPPINES



FILIPINO WOMEN

carried away two small children. Lieutenant Kyle Rucker of the Fourteenth cavalry proceeded to the village, where he found the body of one victim with head, feet and hands severed from the body. The two children carried away, after their father had been murdered, were found afterward in the possession of one Ambrosio David, who said he paid \$30 for them. Although one of the kidnappers was caught and convicted of the murder, no penalty could be imposed, under the law, for the selling or the purchasing of the children.

A common procedure of the slave traders is to get Negrito parents intoxicated with "vino," of which they are inordinately fond, and then buy their children from them while they are drunk. When the improvident Negrito is suffering from hunger it is comparatively easy to buy his children.

"Under such circumstances," says Professor Worcester, "I have personally known a Negrito girl of marriageable age to be purchased for rice worth \$1.50 in gold.

"A comparatively short time ago," he adds, "a Negrito girl was brought in, as a pony or a carabao might be, and offered for sale to the wife of an English gentleman living in the outskirts of Manila."

He gives details of the cases of a dozen Negrito slaves known to be residing right in the city of Manila.

Another tribe which is especially victimized by the slave dealers is the Ilogos. They apply the name "Jimbut" to their unfortunate fellows who become articles of commerce and who often change owners several times before reaching the country of the Bal-uon (Christians). Some time ago a girl of this tribe, seventeen years old, was sold for two water buffalo, some chickens and a small amount of money, while there is record of sales of men and boys for amounts ranging from \$75 to \$35. Lieut. Gov. Walter F. Hale of the sub-Province of Kalinga, reports that on several occasions when he has been trying cases in his capacity of justice of the peace, slaves have been offered to him on condition that their masters be acquitted of crime.

It is still common for Filipinos living near to the Tagbanuas and Ilogots to obtain children and adults of these tribes by capture. Slave-hunting and keeping still prevail in the forest fastnesses of the Province of Augustan, in Mindanao, the scene of many historic slave-hunting raids.

Natives living back from the coast in Zamboanga are reported by the district auditor still to practice "a certain amount of slavery." The heads of families "still regard it as their right and do sell their daughters as wives or concubines to the highest bidders."

An American official who has resided in the Philippines for 14 years, and whose duties have brought him into every province, reports to Mr. Phipps that almost every person associated with the Filipinos to any extent is aware of the fact that slavery exists.

Reporting on the slave traffic in girls, he says:

"I personally have had a number of offers of this kind, and it is a generally known fact that a large percentage of the Chinese who have Filipino wives or 'queridas' actually bought them at a stipulated price. A recent instance in which I was offered boys and girls for the small amount of \$10, \$15 and \$20 was in August of last year (1912), in Cebu. While en route from Zamboanga to Manila I stopped one day in Cebu, and while there had several men and women offer to sell me boys and girls at the price above stated. I inquired into the cause of this and was told that the people were suffering from lack of food; that in many instances parents were unable to provide food for their children, and were therefore trying to dispose of them to the best advantage."

territories inhabited by the few non-Christian Filipinos, which are under the exclusive control of the Philippine commission, I am sure the slave-holders can only be the government officials, who are appointed by the secretary of the interior, the Hon. Dean C. Worcester, the head of the executive department in charge of said territories."

But the reports lately received by the secretary of war state slavery does exist in the territory under the authority of the Philippine assembly.

Included in this territory are Pampanga, where the little Negrito orphans are sold after the manner already described; Cagayan, where children are reported by a district official to be enslaved, "whipped and subject to work at all times;" Isabela, where Professor Worcester says slavery is still common; Romblon, whose native lieutenant governor during the summer just passed has reported on his recent efforts to have returned to their parents a large group of children enlisted from school, sold for \$5 apiece; also Tarlac, Batangas, Zambales and "numerous other provinces," where Professor Worcester says slavery prevails. All of these have representatives in the assembly.

"Without hesitation," says Professor Worcester, "I express the opinion that, apart from a false and foolish pride which makes the persons concerned unwilling to admit the existence of slavery, the chief reason why assemblymen object to the law which they have tabled is that it would not only prohibit and penalize slavery, but would necessarily also prohibit and penalize peonage, which is so common and widespread that it must be called general. Indeed, I have no hesitation in asserting that it prevails in every municipality in the Philippines today."

While on his last visit of inspection to Palawan Professor Worcester says he received reports that Assemblyman Sandoval, who represents the province in the legislature, had, when he attended that body last year, taken a young native girl to Manila, promising to put her in school, but that, instead, he had compelled her to work for him as a house servant. She escaped, but he recaptured her and returned her to Manila. "I have not made the slightest effort to get the peonage records of Philippine assemblymen," adds Professor Worcester, "but have taken cases as they came, yet three of the relatively very limited number furnished me concern members or ex-members of the assembly. Is it any wonder that that body refuses to consider a law prohibiting and penalizing peonage?"

A bill to abolish Philippine slavery and peonage in every form is to be introduced in our congress by Senator Borah of Idaho, whose resolution calling upon the secretary of war brought to light the facts in the Worcester report and who is appalled by the further revelations of the Phipps report.

After returning to the United States Professor Worcester will devote some time to lecturing in favor of abolition of slavery in the archipelago.

## FILLING UP.

"What will we put in the magazine this month?"

"About forty pages concerning what we had last month."

"Yes."

"And forty more about what we will have next month."

"And then?"

"That ought to be enough for this month."

## A LONG SUMMER.

"Why so blue?"

"I can't afford to send my wife away for the summer."

"Cheer up. Maybe she doesn't mind staying home."

"I know she doesn't, but how am I going to have any fun?"—Detroit Free Press.

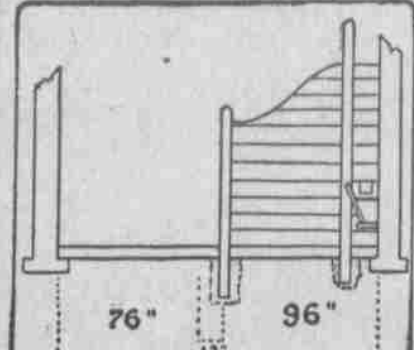
## GOOD FARM BUILDINGS

Materials for Cow Houses, Stables and Pigstyes.

Floor of Structure Intended for Accommodation of Live Stock Should Be Impermeable and Non-Absorbent as Possible.

(By W. R. GILBERT.)

Since the introduction of Portland cement concrete as a floor-laying material there has been no excuse for uncomfortable and inefficient floors at the homestead. To be efficient, the floor of a house intended for the accommodation of live stock must be as great a degree as possible both impermeable and non-absorbent. If it be neither, it will be liable to become offensive itself, and will lead to the same condition in the soil upon which it lies as well. Flagstones of good quality and finish and flooring tiles may reach a high standard in these respects, but unless they are very carefully jointed liquid matter will leak through the seams and pollute the soil underneath. If with such as these it is difficult to keep the subsoil wholesome, it need never be attempted with irregularly finished slabs, far less with small boulders, as paving stones. Concrete can, however, be laid with-



out joint or crack in the whole area covered. It is impervious to water; moisture cannot pass down through it, nor can ground damp pass up. It can be worked into forms required in such places, and it wears well. A further advantage is its comparative cheapness. Another is the effective resistance that it gives to rats; these unclean "sappers and miners" are non-plussed when faced by a well-laid concrete floor.

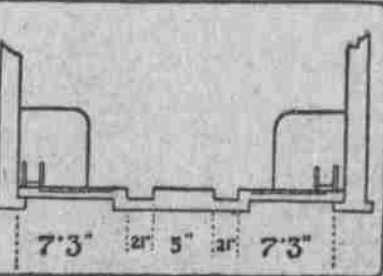
Open channels alone are permissible in the buildings we are dealing with; covered drains can never be kept sanitary in these places—not, at any rate, under the treatment it is found practicable to bestow upon them there. Here, again, concrete comes to the front on account of the regularity and smoothness of outline it is possible to give them in that material. A concrete channel can be effectively swept or scraped with ease, and a bucket or two of water swilled along its course will leave it comparatively sweet and clean.

### Limitations of Concrete.

But while concrete is eminently well adapted for flooring the parts of farm buildings that are liable to be soiled by the tied-up animals, it is not so well suited for their stalls or lairs. It is all right as regards smoothness, but it seems to be too cold for both cows and pigs to lie upon unless abundance of bedding or litter is at the disposal of the attendants. When heavy horses come it is hardly durable enough; the pounding of their iron-bound heels are too much for concrete. The passages and channels of the three places we started with can have no better flooring medium than concrete, but something a little warmer and less unyielding is required for both cows and pigs to lie upon. Horses might be left to take advantage of its smoothness were it more durable against their heels, because they usually have more bedding afforded them and they have less time to lie down.

### Brick Pavement

Makes a very suitable floor for the cow's stall, and it answers equally well for the pig's bed. Well shaped building bricks laid on a bed of lime or cement serve the purpose admirably. The cows can never soil their stall floors, provided the building is arranged to meet their requirements; neither do the pigs mess their sleeping place provided it is kept clear of the rest of the floor space. At this rate there is not much likelihood of the soil beneath the brick pavement ever getting contaminated by excrement matter, even when the bricks are simply bedded on sand or ashes and are not grouted. But when bedded on lime and grouted with cement, a firm,



sound job is the result, and a surface of this sort will respond to a swilling with water as readily as the parts of the floor in concrete do.

### Stable Stalls.

Something harder than brick is of course required for the stable stall. "Setts" or paving blocks, either of granite or "whin," say 36x15-inch, suit very well. Bedding them in lime, and grouting them in cement, both as advised for the brick pavement, make a strong job. This pavement may be kept two feet or so back from the wall that the horses face against, but it should be continued to the one side or other of the channel behind the

horses. Concrete comes in very suitable for the remainder of the floor. The narrow strip in front, if laid with it, keeps rats at defiance. Rats are always sure of something in the stable stalls, but they will not venture there unless they are free to shelter in the floor beneath.

Fig. 1 is a cross-section of a floor such as we are describing. It shows a building 18 feet wide inside. It may safely be more; to make it less is not advisable. The stable, as well as the cowhouse and pigsty, should, as we have already said, be without covered drains inside. As far as practicable, one should make an open channel serve to carry away liquid matter from the stable. There is never so much urine from horses as from the cows, however; but there is usually more fall given in the stalls of the stables than in those of the cowhouse, and the stances for the geldings have to be floored in such a way that the stallings may be readily concentrated and led to the gutter. It is sometimes necessary, however, to make use of short lengths of these.

Fig. 2 represents the cross-section of a good

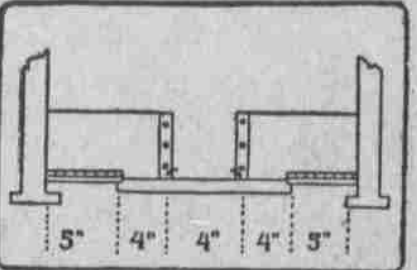
### Double Cowhouse.

The cows face the walls, their beds or lairs being 7 feet 3 inches long from the wall to the edge of the "grip." The beds are almost level in this direction. They have more or less incline the other way, in accordance with the general rake of the building, but as little as can be given. A glazed fire-clay trough sits on the floor in front of each cow. The troughs are kept back from the wall about the breadth of a brick, so that the animal's, when in the act of using, may not damage their horns against the wall. The "grip" is 21 inches broad, 6 inches deep at the side next to the cattle stances and from 3 inches to 4 inches alongside the central passage. The bottom of the "grip" has a dip of 1½ inches from the one side to the other, and lengthwise as much fall as will quickly lead fluid matter to the outlet provided for its discharge. It sometimes happens that the cowhouse may be too long to admit of the channels being run continuously or on the same grade the whole length of the building. Were the floor in general given a good "rake" or incline from one end to the other there would be no difficulty in giving a fairly long stretch to the "grip." Its conformation and smoothness enable it to clear itself quickly of liquid matter. But as we have indicated, it is not advisable to give a building of the kind much of a hang lengthwise, else the cows will have a tilt that way when lying. Their beds we have advised to be made as level as is practicable from wall to "grip," and this holds good with regard to their cross-section, too. It will be noticed from the figure that the passage up the center of the cowhouse is a little lower than the cow stands on each side. This is in order to give the cows a better position when critical are about. The travises or divisions between stalls are of concrete, and between three and four inches thick. Each stall, we need hardly add, holds two cows. A cowhouse, finished as I have been describing, and properly ventilated, does not call for much improvement, one would think.

### The cross-section of

### A Double Pigsty

is represented in Fig. 3. Concrete is again much in evidence, as will be seen. The beds are of brick, however. They are raised a few inches above the general floor level. Where this



method is adopted it will be found that the pigs rarely mess these "platforms." When feeding they void excrement enough, but then it falls on the concrete floor between the trough and the raised bed. The liquid matter escapes either underneath or round the troughs into the channel alongside the passage; and the solid matter can easily be removed from where it fell with shovel or scraper, without leaving much trace behind it. The feeding troughs are of a glazed fire-clay. They are low in front, but have high sloping backs, tending upwards into the passage, over which projection the food can easily be tipped from bucket or ladle. Cross-pieces from front to back keep each snout from boring from right to left in the trough. The high back of the troughs help to make out the front barrier of each division or pen. Iron rods stretched above these, as the section shows, complete it effectually, while they admit of a clear view of the place. It simplifies matters when doors to the pen can be dispensed with at the passage side and be put in the back wall instead. This affords increased trough space, and is otherwise convenient enough. The semi-solid excrement can be easily removed by the back, a concrete barrow track being carried along one end of the platform to the doorway, if so wished, but a narrower strip will serve. A run of water from one end of the house to the other will do the rest of the cleaning effectually. The effluent will easily repay the cost of a tank placed where such can be conveniently intercepted. The figures, it must be borne in mind, are suitable only for smallish pigs; for larger animals they must be increased proportionately. Lighted and ventilated as advised for the cowhouse, a place such as the above merits the name of pighouse in place of pigsty.